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COMMERCE & TRANSPORT (TRANSPORT) DEPARTMENT

RESOLUTION

The 21st September, 2013

**Sub: Scheme for Road Safety Clubs in the Educational Institutions.**

**1. INTRODUCTION:**

The State Youth Policy envisages constitution of the Road Safety Clubs in the High School/Colleges and the villages situated along the National Highways and State Highways of the State as part of its initiative to involve the youth of the State in the process of nation building.

With massive investment in roads and exponential growth in the number of vehicles it has become necessary to have a system which integrates all disciplines that influence road safety and which at the same time would have linkages with established institutions that cater to the different aspects of road safety, viz. education, enforcement, rescue, relief, medical etc. The success of Road Safety Strategy in the State depends upon a broad base of support and common action plan from all the stake-holders.

Government is taking all out efforts to curb road accidents in the State. In spite of these efforts, the number of road accidents and resultant fatalities on the road are growing alarmingly in the State.

Most of the casualties occur due to absence of timely medical intervention. Accidents fatalities could be reduced by 60% where the accident victims could be given proper medical treatment within first one hour of the accident, which in road safety paraphrase is known as the 'golden hour'. But lack of adequate infrastructure and dedicated manpower for the purpose is making us unable to reach the victim or the spot of accident at the right time i.e. immediately after the accident. Though the State Road Safety Society have provided Ambulances along with the Toll Free telephone numbers at more than 20 important townships of the State along the National and State Highways, the same is found insufficient to tackle the calamity as they often get information very late due to lack of awareness among the people witnessing the accidents.

Timely intervention & help can be rushed to the accident sites in a big way if Road Safety Clubs can be formed & made to function effectively in the High Schools / Colleges situated along the National and State Highways of the State. These Clubs can act as Nodal Centers for creation of public awareness on road safety as well as the first point of intervention in case of road accidents occurring in their vicinity.

## **2. SHORT TITLE :**

This scheme may be called the “**scheme for Road safety clubs in Educational Institutions**”.

## **3. CONSTITUTION OF ROAD SAFETY CLUBS:**

- (i) Road Safety Clubs may be formed in all the Colleges/Higher Secondary Schools/ High Schools situated along the National Highways and State Highways of the State to involve the youth in that area in road safety activities and to ensure prevention and mitigation of any type of road accidents in their locality.
- (ii) To start with, each District/RTA will identify the stretches of National Highways / State Highways passing through their district and list out the High Schools/Higher Secondary Schools/ Colleges situated along those N.Hs/ S.Hs where the road safety clubs can be formed.

- (iii) The accident prone/vulnerable areas along those High Ways will also be identified by the RTAs /the concerned district.
- (iv) Initially, the existing NCC/Red Cross Society/Scout units/ NSS units functioning in those schools/colleges may function as Road Safety Club for the concerned area. Where no such unit exists, new Road Safety Club shall be formed & function in those institutions under the supervision of the Physical Education Teacher (PET) of the said institution.

#### **4. FUNCTIONS OF THE ROAD SAFETY CLUBS :**

Each club shall be given clearly earmarked area of operation i.e. Schools/ Colleges/ Villages and extent of N.H/S.H. stretch to be covered

- (i) Creation of public awareness on road safety among the local people/students.
- (ii) Disseminate information on road signage and road safety practices among the road users and among the students in their area of operation.
- (iii) Teach basic road use practices and safety measures like use of helmet/safety belt, caution against rash/drunken driving etc to the new D.L. holders and new vehicle users.
- (iv) Take steps to create awareness as well as to prevent wrong side driving, parking of vehicles on the road, road crossings etc.
- (v) Ensure erection of proper road signages on the accident-prone areas in their locality and their maintenance.
- (vi) Help discourage sale of liquor and other intoxicants in roadside shops, thereby preventing their easy access to the drivers.
- (vii) In case of any accidents occurring in their locality to rush to the spot immediately, provide first aid to the accident victims and ensure their immediate transportation to the nearest hospital. They shall also inform the local police, Emergency Ambulance and OMVD officials promptly for immediate followup action & co-ordinate their arrival/activities.
- (viii) Strive to achieve total prevention and mitigation of any type of road accidents in their locality.

## 5. IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING OF THE SCHEME:

(a) Odisha Road Safety Society (ORSS): ORSS shall be the State level nodal agency to implement and monitor the scheme. The ORSS shall activate/ revive the district road safety committee formed in all the districts vide Govt. Notification dated the 10th, April, 2002 (S.R.O. No.405/2002). Necessary funding support for this purpose shall be provided by the ORSS.

(b) The District Level Road Safety Committee shall implement and monitor the scheme at the district level.

The District Road Safety Committee shall meet once in 3 months to review the implementation of this schemes and facilitate Road Safety measures in the districts.

The District Road Safety Committee under the chairmanship of the Collector shall prepare a macro road safety plan for each district and ensure its implementation.

(c) Tahasil Level Monitoring Committee:

There shall be a Tahasil level Monitoring Committee with the following members to facilitate formation of Road Safety Clubs, implementation and coordination of the scheme within the Tahasil area.

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|---|---|------------------|
| (i) Tahasildar-cum-Executive Magistrate   | - | Chairman         |
| (ii) IIC of the local Police Station  | - | Member           |
| (iii) Executive Engineer /SDO of<br>PWD/RD Dept. to be nominated<br>by the Chairman                           | - | Member           |
| (iv) Two Heads of the Educational Institutions<br>Implementing the scheme- to be<br>nominated by the Chairman | - | Member           |
| (v) Local RTO / MVI / Addl. RTO / Asst. RTO   | - | Member– Convenor |

(In case of Cuttack / Bhubaneswar, a representative of the traffic police shall also be included as member to be nominated by the DCP)

The Tahasil Monitoring Committee shall meet once in 2 months to review the functioning of the activities of the Road Safety Clubs and facilitate Road Safety measures in their area.

## **6. CAPACITY BUILDING:**

- (i) The concerned road safety clubs shall chalk out their own action plan depending on their local situation and needs. The district road safety society shall facilitate the implementation of such action plan.
- (ii) The DRSS shall draw a calendar of activities for such clubs within their district. The Tahasil monitoring committee shall meet at-least once in every two months to review such activities of the clubs and decide the further course of action.
- (iii) The concerned DRSS in collaboration with District Red Cross Society if required shall conduct the training of the Trainers selected from each of such Road safety clubs. The concerned Trainers shall, on their part, train the members of the clubs in required activities.
- (iv) The Odisha Road Safety Society shall prepare a module with electronic and print materials for such training activities.
- (v) The ORSS shall include such module, awareness on impacts of agitations (Rasta Roka) staged by the villagers after accidents, which affects public life very adversely.
- (vi) The district administration will facilitate the efforts of the clubs including shifting the liquor shops lying on such Highways to atleast 500 meters beyond the highways as a precautionary measure of road safety to prevent easy access of liquor to the drivers.
- (vii) The National Highway Authority of India/ PWD may facilitate the efforts of the clubs including installing blinkers on both sides of the cuts in the divider lying along all two/four laning highways.

The basic first-aid kit shall be kept at each of the Clubs. A list of important telephone numbers of the locality like police, ambulance, fire brigade, OMVD, District Emergency control room, local hospital and doctors etc. shall also be kept with each clubs and shall be displayed on a board near their office.

A small corpus fund as decided by the ORSS may also be provided to all the clubs to meet the miscellaneous expenditures in the event of any exigency which may be recouped periodically depending on utilization.

## **7. AWARDS / FELICITATIONS :**

Three best Road Safety Clubs and three best volunteers will be selected at the district and State level each year and felicitated during observance of Road Safety Week by the ORSS.

### **ORDER**

It is ordered that the Resolution be published in the Extraordinary Gazette of the Government of Odisha for the general information and copy be communicated to all the Departments of Government and other concerned.

By order of the Governor

G. MATHI VATHANAN

Commissioner-*cum*-Secretary to Government